

ECONOMY

Y2K BANKING

JANUARY 1, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:12) TRT 00:34

KCAL9 anchor Dave Clark reported that everything was Y2K "okay." That was the word from the Federal Government and banking agencies all over the world. Bankers from coast to coast spent their New Year's at the office monitoring the situation worldwide and making sure all systems were "go." Union Bank of California spent fifty million dollars on Y2K upgrades. The entire industry spent ten billion dollars. The Federal Reserve printed piles of extra currency in an anticipation of a run on ATM's about two-hundred and twenty-five dollars for every man, woman and child in the United States.

BUSINESS

JANUARY 3, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:17) TRT 00:43

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that the day's sell-out on Wall Street came at a critical time because many investors looked at the first week of trading during January as an indicator of how the entire year on Wall Street would go. It was seen as the January indicator. The first five trading days of January set the pace for the month, and the month of January would set the pace for the year. There was no guarantee that the January indicator would work but it was one of those curiosities that tended to tell the future. That month had another predictor as well—the Superbowl Predictor. That indicator had been accurate about ninety percent. The Superbowl predictor says that when the National Football Conference wins the Superbowl, stocks would be up for a year.

STOCKS

JANUARY 5, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:25) TRT 00:41

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that Internet and some high tech stocks were under pressure that day, but analysts were saying it was probably a sign of normal profit taking, and not any kind of market panic, or even a shift in investor Psychology. The selling continued for the Internet stocks that day. Stocks such as ETOYS and America Online and Yahoo, partly because Amazon dot COM said it stuck with a lot of unsold inventory after the holiday shopping season. This sent a message to investors that the Internet stocks were not invincible and they could go down as well as up.

AOL/TIME WARNER

JANUARY 10, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:13) TRT 00:27

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that Time Warner and America Online was merging. America Online was buying the media conglomerate for 162-billion dollars in the largest corporate merger of all time. The combined company would change how you're entertained, informed and how you shop. Within the next three years it was expected that the currently herky jerky Internet videos would be clear and smooth.

CREDIT CARD

JANUARY 10, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:16) TRT 00:39

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that the FBI was hot on the trail of a computer hacker who stole and posted thousands of credit card numbers. The hacker stole the numbers from CD Universe in Connecticut and then demanded the company pay a 100-thousand dollar ransom. The company did not pay and he went public with the numbers. Experts said companies needed to plan for something like this. CD Universe said it notified affected customers immediately.

NEW QUARTERS

JANUARY 11, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:30) TRT 01:42

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that the government was making lots of the new quarters for each of the states, but they were not staying in circulation. At the time, the mint was making enough new quarters that every American should have been able to hold on to at least 16. However, some Americans were holding onto more. A trade group for the vending machine industry said there was a shortage of quarters nationwide. The group, The Coin Coalition said the new quarters were not staying in circulation to meet everyday needs. Wells Fargo Vice President Kathleen Shilkret said the bank was so short of nickels and dimes that it had to make special shipments. A year before, the problem was pennies. That problem seemed to be over. In fact, the mint started making cents with the date 2000 early so Cheerios could pack them in cereal boxes as a Y2K bonus. The vending industry was hoping that people circulate their coins.

BUDGET SURPLUS

JANUARY 14, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:37) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that the California kept churning away, pumping more and more money into the state treasury day by day. When Governor Gray Davis unveiled his state budget plan earlier that week, he predicted a budget surplus of about five billion dollars. The state legislative analyst said there could be even more money—another three billion. Lawmakers were already fighting over ways to spend it or give it back in the form of tax cuts.

STAPLES PROTEST

JANUARY 17, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:13) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that members of the "Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union" created a scene at the Staples Center. They protested outside the Staples Center just as Laker fans arrived for that day's game. Negotiations had bogged down between the union and Ogden Entertainment who operates concession stands in the Staples Center. The protest was peaceful. Police did arrest 25 people for trespassing.

WAGE GAP

JANUARY 18, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:16) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that the gap between the rich and poor continued to widen. According to a new study, the rich had gotten richer over the past 20 years. The top earners gained 34 thousand in annual income while the poor actually lost 9-thousand dollars. The gap was blamed on a loss of manufacturing jobs, the booming stock market and a decline in the minimum wage. The study was done by the center on budget and policy priorities. Authors said the government should take steps to alleviate the growing economic disparity.

STOCKS

JANUARY 23, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:21) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that stocks opened lower as waves of selling were sandwiched around a failed recovery effort. At that hour, the Dow Jones Industrials were down 184 points at 10,843. 835-million shares had been traded. High-tech stocks were also losing on the final trading day of the week. The NASDAQ was down 139 points at 39-hundred. One point two billion shares had already exchanged hands.

STOCKS FALLING

JANUARY 25, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:09) TRT 01:52

KCAL9 Money man Alan Mendelson reported that stocks were falling. Money and the cost of borrowing it were the big reason why stocks were falling. The fear was that interest rates would go higher. That was bad for consumers and businesses. Wall Street investing was on the rise through main streets nationwide, but some investors wondered if the rush was slowing down. Financial planner Paul Arthur of Maxwell Noll wasn't so pessimistic. Paul Arthur said the market could fall more but the long term market was the place to be. In other words, stocks beat bank accounts over the long term. But short term, the risk was there.

AMAZON LAYOFF

JANUARY 28, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:42) TRT 00:14

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that Amazon-dot-com, the largest retailer on the Internet, was laying off 150 employees in its first ever cutback. Employees at Amazon's Seattle headquarters learned of the news at a company meeting. Amazon added more than five thousand people to the payroll the past year. The company had steadily lost money since it went online five years prior.

INTEREST RATES

JANUARY 31, 2000 12:00 P.M (12:11) TRT 00:31

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that on Wall Street that morning, the going bet was that the Federal Reserve would raise short-term interest rates by one-quarter of one percent on Wednesday. But, there were many analysts who believed the FED would raise rates again over the next few months. A rate hike by the FED would immediately translate into higher rates on credit cards that had variable rates, and into higher rates for home equity loans. However, as the FED raised short-term rates, there was a feeling that the economy and inflation would slow and so rates on mortgages might actually go lower.

FAA

FEBRUARY 2, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:08) TRT 01:30

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that the MD-80 class of airplanes, including the Alaska Airlines MD-83 that crashed that past Monday, had been under scrutiny for one potential major problem – the rear stabilizers, those little wings at the tail of the plane. A McDonnell Douglas service bulletin to airlines nearly two years ago said to watch for corrosion of the rear stabilizers and to make necessary repairs. In May of the past year, the Federal Aviation Administration turned that service advisory into a mandatory order to inspect for corrosion and make repairs. But, the FAA gave the airlines 18 months to do that work on some 1-thousand of the planes - 18 months, because it was not considered an emergency. 18 months would run out this coming November. Did that deadline change because of the crash and the American Airlines incident in Phoenix? The FAA told KCAL9 NO. But, they were compiling the results of the plane inspections that had already been finished. Those results would be made public in the morning. Those results, if they point to or confirm the problem, could influence a change in FAA policy. In the meantime, the MD-80 planes would be in normal service, and those planes have one of the best safety records among aircraft.

STOCKS

FEBRUARY 4, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:13) TRT 00:29

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that stocks opened higher after a blue-chip rally and another drive into record territory for the NASDAQ. The Dow Industrials were up 14 points at that hour, and still about the 11,00 barrier. 830-million shares had been exchanged that day. High tech stocks were up nearly 80 points, soaring close to the 43-hundred mark. There was active trading on the NASDAQ with one-point four billion high-tech shares already changing hands.

STOCKS

FEBRUARY 8, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:08) TRT 00:38

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that a report showing that productivity was up was helping to ease fears of higher inflation and higher interest rates to come from the FED. Financial stocks including JP Morgan, Citigroup and American Express were higher that day as interest rates moved lower in the bond market. The NASDAQ rally continued as the tech stocks continued to gain. The NASDAQ moved higher into record territory that morning. In the mortgage market, the 30 year fixed rate loan with no points was at 8 and one quarter percent, and the jumbo loan was at 8 and 5/8 percent.

STOCKS

FEBRUARY 9, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:17) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that on Wall Street that morning, worries about higher interest rates were back, actually, they never went away and financial stocks were hit hard that day. There was some support for the Dow at 10,800 and that was an important support line to hold. The NASDAQ did not fall as much because of good profits and a stock split for Cisco Systems. However, Internet stocks were hacked because of cyber-tage, that cyber mischief. Gold prices were back above 300 dollars an ounce.

MD-80'S INSPECTED

FEBRUARY 13, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:05) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that airlines temporarily grounded 15 more jets following a government order to examine tail wings. A potential problem in the tail wing could have been the cause of Alaska Airlines crash two weeks prior. Irregular tail wing jackscrews were the focus of the Alaska Air crash investigation. It is a key part of the stabilizer which keeps planes leveled.

GREENSPAN

FEBRUARY 17, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:23) TRT 00:59

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that there was a mixed picture in Wall Street that morning. Uncle Sam reported that the wholesale inflation rate the month before was zero. There was no inflation the past month at the wholesale level. The bad news was that FED Chairman Alan Greenspan made another appearance on Capitol Hill that morning. He told a Congressional Committee that inflation could heat up and so more interest rate hikes were needed. He said that even after the FED finished raising interest rates, the economy would continue to grow and it would grow at a pace that would be healthy to keep inflation in check.

MARKET RATES

FEBRUARY 18, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:43) TRT 00:13

KCAL9 anchor Alan Mendelson reported that it was a tough day for Wall Street. Computer and Technology stocks were hard hit, so were banking and financial stocks. That was due to fear that Chairman Alan Greenspan and the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates. Greenspan wanted to raise rates to slow down the economy. A thirty-year fixed rate loan with no points was at eight and a half percent, but a loan that was fixed for only five years was now at 7 and 5/8 percent.

MARKET

FEBRUARY 21, 2000 12:00 P.M (12:13) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that it was a brutal day for Wall Street. The Dow Industrial average fell nearly three hundred points and the NASDAQ dropped more than one hundred. It was all the result of fear that interest rates would continue to go up.

STOCKS

MARCH 1, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:33) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that on Wall Street there was about the Nevada casino stocks. Mirage resorts had rejected a take-over bid by MGM grand. Mirage had adopted a so-called poison bill provision. That poison bill would allow existing shareholders to buy more stock to stop a hostile takeover. The Dow was consolidating its recent gains. But for the year, the Dow was still down about 12 percent. The NASDAQ continued to have its record setting rally.

UNEMPLOYMENT

MARCH 1, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:37) TRT 00:44

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that a big rally was triggered that morning after Uncle Sam reported that the unemployment rate went up slightly the previous month. The jobless rate went up one-tenth of one percent to 4.1 percent. That was still a very low unemployment rate. It was one of the lowest rates in three decades. But the slight increase in unemployment showed that the hot economy might have been cooling and there would be less inflation ahead. Uncle Sam also reported that only 43 thousand new jobs were opened the previous month. That was less than expected and another sign that the economy might be cooling. Uncle Sam also said that wages were not shooting up and that was another sign of low inflation. It was good news that could keep the Federal Reserve from raising interest rates much more.

GAS PRICES

MARCH 6, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:33) TRT 02:00

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that gas prices were expected to stay high and go even higher as spring turned into summer. Prices were around a dollar 50 a gallon nationwide, and they were expected to climb to one 80 by summer. Opec had pledged to boost its production after their March 27th meeting, but that was not going to make enough of a difference quickly enough. Ironically, the booming economy may have been partially to blame. While crude oil prices were at their highest price in nine years, increased production meant greater need for fuel; adding to that an unusually cold winter in the North, and there was just not enough oil to go around. There would be enough gasoline for the warm weather travel boom, but if you wanted it, you were going to have to pay for it.

STOCKS

MARCH 10, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:28) TRT 00:32

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that on Wall Street that morning, shares of Continental Airlines were higher. Those higher ticket prices could help its bottom line. But there was little follow through to the previous day's big rally in the Dow. The NASDAQ continued to building on the previous day's sharp rally.

TIMES LOCAL

MARCH 14, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:36) TRT 00:10

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported that the Los Angeles Times had been sold, part of a six point four "billion"-dollar deal. It would bring to an end more than a hundred years as a family run business.

STOCKS

MARCH 14, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:38) TRT 01:07

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported on a yo-yo session on Wall Street that morning. Right from the opening bell, stocks sold off sharply. The Dow was down more than 200 points and the NASDAQ was down more than 200. Stocks were clobbered by worries about a new recession in Japan. But the Dow since recovered nicely. On the New York Exchange, shares of Tribune were down about 21 percent after its announced deal to buy the Times Mirror Company. Shares of Times Mirror were up 75 percent on the day. Technology stocks were hard hit by the worries about a Japanese recession, because the Japanese were big computer buyers.

STOCKS SOAR

MARCH 16, 2000 3:30 P.M. (3:41) TRT 01:09

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that ever since the crash of 1987, stock market traders had dreamed of a "melt up," which was a reversal of the meltdown of October of 1987. When you combined that day's one day record gain of almost 500 points, and the previous day's 320 point rally, you would have a melt up of 820, a gain that was bigger than the 600 point crash of '87. When they rang the closing bell, the Dow Industrials were up almost 50 points. That was 120 points more than the previous record again.

INFLATION

MARCH 16, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:31) TRT 00:19

KCAL9 reporter Alan Mendelson reported that higher prices for oil and gasoline at the wholesale level sent wholesale prices way up the previous month. Uncle Sam that morning said that its index for wholesale inflation rose by one-percent the previous month, and that was the biggest gain in a decade. But without the energy price inflation, overall wholesale inflation was moderate, up only 3 tenths of one percent.

FEDS/INTEREST

MARCH 21, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:24) TRT 00:11

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported on higher interest rates on credit cards, home equity loans and more. The Federal Reserve that day raised rates again by one percent.

EDUCATION

DAVIS/GRANTS

JANUARY 5, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:13) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that Governor Gray Davis wanted to give California's best high school students a helping hand with their college bills by providing grants up to 55 hundred dollars. The plan would benefit 100-thousand students a year. They could use the grants for tuition at any college they wanted. The plan would cost the state about 118 million dollars a year. The Governor was to outline the proposal that evening in his annual "State of the Union" address.

PRINCIPAL PLEA

JANUARY 6, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:33) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that an L.A middle school principal pleaded "not guilty" to embezzlement charges and accusations arising from her husband's job on her school's payroll. Prosecutors said when Gloria Mercado was the principal at Leconte Middle School in Hollywood; she hired the man who soon became her husband, Bruce Fortine, as her aide. She allegedly paid him more than 8-thousand dollars for work, prosecutors said, he never did. Both were charged with misappropriation of public money and embezzlement.

SCHOOL SECURITY

JANUARY 7, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:42) TRT 00:26

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that security was beefed up at a Garden Grove High School that day in response to a note saying students would be killed in a Columbine-like situation. The note reportedly was found before the winter break in a drawer of a library table in a classroom at Bolsa Grande High School. It specifically mentioned January 17th. Police were investigating who had left the note.

TEACHER QUALITY

JANUARY 9, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:11) TRT 00:50

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that there was a bleak report card that day for the nation's schools. Education Secretary Richard Riley said schools were suffering from a critical shortage of good teachers. He made his comments in a Washington speech to the National Conference on Teacher Quality. Riley said a recent survey showed little more than a third of U.S teachers felt well qualified to teach. Riley blamed the crisis on new classroom obstacles including

more children with emotional and language problems. He wanted better preparation, mentoring, and pay for teachers.

SCHOOL LIGHTING

JANUARY 10, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:11) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that a new study in South Orange County Schools showed students in classrooms with more natural light and large windows scored higher. Test scores for math and reading went up as much as 20 and 26 percent, respectively. The study at the Capistrano Unified School District and two other areas included 21 thousand students. Officials said the study would help them design better schools in the future.

EXPELLED STUDENTS

JANUARY 11, 2000 3:30 P.M. (03:36) TRT 00:45

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that a federal judge ruled in favor of an Illinois School District that expelled six Black students for fighting at a football game. The students were expelled for a year for fighting in the bleachers. The judge said district's anti-violence policy did not violate the students' civil rights. The ruling was a defeat for Civil Rights Leader Jesse Jackson, who led protests against the expulsions for weeks. Jackson said he would appeal the judge's ruling and planned more protests against the expulsions.

AUDITORIUM

JANUARY 12, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:09) TRT 00:27

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported on a demand for quick action at a Los Angeles City school so crowded that five separate classes were held in the auditorium. Ramon Cortines, who would become interim Superintendent that Saturday, visited Rosemont Avenue Elementary School in Echo Park. He said he was disgusted a lawsuit had to be filed to remedy the situation. Cortinas discussed several possibilities including closing off a street next to the school for space to erect temporary classrooms.

JOYNER SCHOOL

JANUARY 14, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:17) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that Florence Griffith Joyner was honored that day in her old neighborhood in South Central L.A. Little more than a year after her death, Joyner's old elementary school was re-named in her memory. A ceremony honored the Olympic track star known as "the world's fastest woman." Joyner's husband, Al, said his wife often talked about her days at the school. Joyner's mother, Florence Griffith, urged students to keep their own dreams alive.

LAUSD HIRING

JANUARY 18, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:35) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that the new acting Superintendent of the L.A. School District imposed a hiring freeze. Ramon Cortinas took over the job that Sunday. He replaced Ruben Zacarias. The hiring freeze would not affect administrative and teaching positions at district schools. Cortinas did not say how long the freeze would last. While head of New York's Public Schools, Cortinas removed thousands of administrators from the payroll.

EDUCATION AUDIT

JANUARY 20, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:11) TRT 00:27

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that a new audit report was criticizing the State Department of Education. It found the department was not adequately scrutinizing the use of public funds. The department oversaw about 26-billion dollars worth of state and federal programs. The department was already under investigation by the FBI for its use of federal money in another program. State school superintendent Delaine Eastin said the department would like to do more and better audits, but its budget was cut by the previous governor and it needed more money.

TEACHERS AND COMPUTERS

JANUARY 21, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:14) TRT 00:21

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that it was not easy for kids to become computer savvy when their teachers were computer stupid. 80% of teachers said they were not prepared to use computer technology in the classroom. Therefore, the world's leading computer chipmaker, Intel offered to help. The Santa Clara Company said it would spend 100 million dollars over the next three years training 100-thousand teachers in California, Oregon, Texas and Arizona.

TEST SCORES

JANUARY 24, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:13) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that Southland schools would now be judged under a new controversial system called the Academic Performance Index. The API would show how schools throughout the state compared to one another on student achievement. The state would give each school a target goal for the year. Those that did not meet the goal could face sanctions; others could receive extra cash from the state. The state called the plan a "cornerstone for reform." But, critics were upset that the first year's rankings were based on only the Stanford Nine Test.

BELMONT HIGH

JANUARY 26, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:11) TRT 00:12

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that the Los Angeles School Board had decided to not go ahead with the Belmont Learning Complex. The following decisions would involve what to do with the site, and the students. The Belmont Learning Center sits half built on top of 35 contaminated acres, and the school district has few options on what to do with the 200 million-dollar catastrophe. Administrators were thinking about using it as a warehouse. However, the pressure was on to sell the property and try to re-coup some of the loss. School Board member David Tokofsky said advisors on the project should bare a lot of the responsibility for the financial disaster. In particular, law firms failed to present clear and compelling evidence that would have stopped construction a long time ago. The district had already filed lawsuits. Tokofsky specifically pointed the finger at attorney David Cartwright.

CITY GRADES

JANUARY 31, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:06) TRT 00:42

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that report card grades for the City of L.A were nothing to brag about. The "Maxwell school of citizenship and public affairs" at Syracuse University along with, Governing Magazine, gave the city of L.A the grade of "C." Only six cities received a C or lower. The grades were based on analysis of five key management areas, financial, human resources, information technology, capital, and results. The City of Long Beach rated higher, getting an A-B grade. Analysts said Long Beach did a great job of bouncing back after economic setbacks.

GAY CLUB RULING

FEBRUARY 4, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:18) TRT 00:16

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that it was a major victory that day for the high school students fighting to start a gay rights club in the City of Orange. A judge ruled that the club could go ahead and meet on campus, despite the objections of the school board.

TOBACCO EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 18, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:39) TRT 00:32

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that anti-smoking activists were denouncing a suggestion from Mayor Riordan on what to do with L.A's share of Tobacco settlement funds. Riordan wanted to use the tobacco windfall to settle lawsuits arising from tainted convictions in the LAPD Rampart scandal. Activists said the money should be earmarked for anti-tobacco programs such as educating young people. Lawsuits from the Ramparts scandal could cost taxpayers more than 125-million dollars.

SCIENCE BOWL

FEBRUARY 21, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:31) TRT 00:15

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that North Hollywood High's science team was Washington bound. For the third consecutive year, the team took first place over the weekend in the department of Water and Power Science Bowl, beating 41 other teams. The victory earned the five-member team an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C, to represent Los Angeles at the national science bowl in May.

RACE/EXPULSION

MARCH 1, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:23) TRT 00:22

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that once in trouble at school another study indicated black students were expelled more often than white students. The finding came from a survey of 12 school districts including Los Angeles. In Boston 55 percent of the students were black. But they made up 70 percent of the students suspended or expelled each year. Researchers said black students were also under-represented in advanced level classes.

DRUGS/SCHOOL

MARCH 1, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:26) TRT 00:29

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that there was a discouraging new report about California students. The report stated that more students were getting high and starting trouble. The latest report said there was "seven-percent increase" in violent offenses and an 11 percent increase in drug and alcohol crimes. But state officials said the increase could be due to better reporting by schools, following the Columbine High School Massacre. The "California Safe Schools Assessment Study" listed crimes reported by the state's nearly one thousand school districts for the 1998 to 99 school year.

BOB JONES DATING

MARCH 4, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:22) TRT 00:36

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that the ban on interracial dating at Bob Jones University was a thing of the past. And it was a decision that had stunned students and supporters of the fundamentalist Christian School. The previous night on "Larry King Live", University President Bob Jones the third, made the announcement to end the half-century-old ban immediately. Supporters, watching the interview at the school's auditorium were reportedly shocked by the announcement. Many said they were not expecting it. The University's ban on interracial dating came under fire after George W. Bush made a campaign stop at the school. He was criticized for not speaking up against the policy.

JAIL VISIT

MARCH 5, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:34) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported on a day of inspiration for prison inmates in Castaic. They met a man who had already walked a mile in their shoes. Ruben "Hurricane" Carter and the Reverend Jesse Jackson toured the Pitches Detention Center. The two were speaking to inmates and showing the film "The Hurricane" based on the real life story of Ruben Carter, depicted as wrongly and imprisoned for 3 murders. Ruben shared how to best use the time in prison. About 150 inmates watched and heard the speeches of inspiration. The rest of the prisoners watched the event on videotape.

BEST SCHOOL

MARCH 9, 2000 3:30 P.M. (3:43) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that according to Newsweek Magazine, a school in South Los Angeles was among the best in the nation at preparing students for college. It ranked with schools in Beverly Hills and Palos Verdes. 11-years before, the Foshay Learning Center was considered one of the worst schools in the L.A. Unified District. Things had changed. Among other improvements all students were encouraged to take college level classes known as advanced placement classes. Students and teachers were proud of their school dubbing it "the good inner city school."

WHALE BONES

MARCH 9, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:21) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that in San Diego they were talking about "dem bones, dem bones!" It was an incredible fossil find. They were the bones of a four million-year-old whale. The ancient artifact was thought to be from a baleen whale, which died during the Pliocene Era. It was found in an area that was once under water, but was now over 400 feet above sea level.

EVANS PROTEST

MARCH 9, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:27) TRT 00:29

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that students at the Evans Community Adult School that day marched in protest of a possible plan to give their school to the Belmont students. The Evans Community Adult Center served those looking to further their education, as well as many immigrants, looking to learn English and eventually become American citizens. Protesters said the school should not have to sacrifice as a way to fix the overcrowding problem at Belmont High. The Evans Community Adult Center also had a High School program and had served students for more than 30 years.

BELMONT

MARCH 9, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:20) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported the L.A. School Board would hear a proposal to build a high school on a corner of Dodger Stadium's parking lot. The 16-acre lot could hold a school for 2 thousand students. The Belmont Site was abandoned earlier that year after it was learned that the school was being built atop a former oil field.

DAVIS EDUCATION

MARCH 10, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:13) TRT 00:22

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that Governor Gray Davis said next to parents that teachers were the world's greatest forces of social good. He reinforced that statement that day at a Town Hall Meeting with hundreds of teachers in Culver City. They all excelled in the Governor's reading program. They would then be able to train others. Davis reiterated his pledge to reward schools that show a five percent increase in their test scores from the year before.

CORTINAS PLAN

MARCH 14, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:22) TRT 01:39

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that it was being called the single greatest overhaul in L.A. School District history. A proposal to shift authority to newly created local districts. An admission that the old way of doing business led to students whom could not even read. The adults in that district had failed the children of the district. The students were not dumb. They were bright. Interim School Superintendent Ramon Cortinas came up with the reorganization Plan to get the district back on track. It would create 11 local districts, each one autonomous with its own budget. The focus would be on improving reading skill, which Cortinas said were now unacceptable in many schools. District superintendents would be in charge of each district and would be expected to improve grades. The 300-page report would be submitted to school board members the following day, but so far, they saw few problems. The plan would be submitted to the school board tomorrow. A final vote would come after a month of public hearings.

JORDAN STUDENT

MARCH 17, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:28) TRT 00:24

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported that Michael Jordan had won his share of awards. But that day he was the one giving them out. Four teachers were honored for developing innovative lesson plans that set high learning expectations for their students. One of those teachers, Thomas Philip taught Science at L.A.'s Washington Prep High School. In handing out the awards,

Jordan stressed the importance of teachers. The "Jordan Fundamentals" program had handed out a total of one million dollars.

SCHOOL SIGN UP

MARCH 17, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:19) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that stiff competition had some Santa Ana parents camping out to make sure their kids got in a good school. These moms and dads had been waiting in line outside John Muir Fundamental School for more than 24 hours already. Many even took the day off from work to ensure their kindergartners got one of the 75 open spots. Registration began the following morning. Until then, these parents were passing the time reading and catching up with old and new friends.

ENVIRONMENT

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAYS

JANUARY 2, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:12) TRT 00:36

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that it was a deadly New Year's weekend on Southland roads. The California Highway Patrol reported that four people were killed during the first 36-hours of the New Year's holiday. That number was up three from the year before. Across the state, 17 people died on California roads, up from 11 the previous year. In L.A County, officers arrested 262 people for driving under the influence. That number was up 46% from the same period the previous year. Officials said the sharp increase in DUI arrests was largely due to the CHP canceling New Year's vacations for all its officers for the first time in its 70-year history.

TREE RECYCLING

JANUARY 3, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:12) TRT 00:44

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that the City of Los Angeles set up a dozen drop-off sites around town to make recycling Christmas trees a lot easier. The year before, the city recycled more than 150 thousand trees into mulch. Officials hoped to exceed that number this year. Residents could also cut up their tree and dispose of it in their green automated yard trimming container, but the trees should not exceed more than a foot out of the container.

WIND ADVISORY

JANUARY 5, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:11) TRT 00:12

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that wind warnings and advisories were in effect that night for wide areas of California. Firefighters were keeping their fingers crossed that the winds would kick up new trouble for them.

MARS LANDER

JANUARY 6, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:08) TRT 00:21

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that an engineer at Lockheed-Martin, which built the Mars Polar Lander, said the Mars Polar Lander probably tumbled down a Martian canyon. But, NASA officials said a fall down a canyon was only one of several possible explanations for the loss of the spacecraft. The 165 million-dollar Polar Lander disappeared a month prior, as it was about to touch down.

SLIDING HOMES

JANUARY 7, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:14) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Marti Skold reported that some northern California residents were still suffering the effects of all the rain that eroded hillsides due to the past El Nino winter. Homeowners in Daly City, south of San Francisco had to deal with cracked driveways, and slipping streets this winter, even though that damage originated out of the El Nino winter. The city of Daly was going to have to consider different alternatives of how to rectify some of the current damages. One consideration was to build a 22-million dollar retaining wall to hold back the houses, and the alternative was to have those homes temporarily removed.

SPAIN FLOODING

JANUARY 9, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:11) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that freak storms and wild weather brought havoc to some of Spain's popular tourist resorts. Tourists in the Canary Islands had to be evacuated as heavy winds and rain flooded hotels. The rains turned creeks and rivers into rushing torrents, many cars were swept away. Meanwhile mountainous areas in this subtropical region were covered with snow. A thick fog covered roads, making driving dangerous. There were no reported injuries, but the storm did cause 60 million dollars worth of damage so far.

ASTEROID

JANUARY 12, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:06) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported that it turned out that asteroids were only half as likely to destroy the planet as scientists once thought. Experts at the Jet Propulsion Lab only found about 7 hundred asteroids capable of wreaking global disaster – a lot fewer than they once estimated. There was still a one half one percent chance of a killer asteroid striking earth over the next thousand years.

HAZMAT

JANUARY 14, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:17) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that authorities cleaned up a small amount of radioactive material that spilled on the Glendale freeway that night. Officials said there was no hazard to the public. It happened on the northbound side near Colorado Boulevard. A car smashed into a truck carrying 28 vials of radioactive material for medical use. A few of the vials were broken. Hazmat teams closed off some lanes for up to eight hours as they cleaned up the materials.

MARS LANDER

JANUARY 17, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:11) TRT 00:23

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported that scientists at JPL in Pasadena ended all efforts to contact the Mars Polar Lander that day. They were holding out hope for six weeks, hoping for some contact with the 165 million-dollar craft that went silent during a landing on Mars. Engineers said they might never know if the Lander burned up in the Martian atmosphere or crashed on the planet.

LUNAR ECLIPSE

JANUARY 18, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:10) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Dave Clark reported that was an additional wonder in the night that night. If they were clear, you would not need a telescope, star chart, or degree in rocket science to appreciate the total eclipse of the moon. The eclipse would be visible across North and South America. The earth would start its move between the sun and the moon about six o'clock that Thursday night and reached its darkest phase between 8:05 and 9:22 p.m.

BEACH BACTERIA

JANUARY 21, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:12) TRT 00:42

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that researchers were still at a loss that night over the main cause of a bacterial outbreak on Huntington Beach. The contamination shut down a section of shoreline the previous summer, leaving officials with plenty of questions to answer. A two-week study turned up very little information. Researchers did find out that the Talbert Marsh was a partial source of the pollution, sending small amounts of E-Coli into the water; but a major source was still not found. Researchers tested the area by taking measurements every hour for two weeks straight. They said more monitoring stations would be set up to identify the problem.

TREE PLANTING

JANUARY 23, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:09) TRT 00:35

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that a stretch of Pico Boulevard would look a little more beautiful in the years ahead thanks to that day's effort by some devoted volunteers. That day was the traditional New Year for trees in the Jewish calendar. Volunteers celebrated by planting 40 trees in the Pico-Robertson area of West L.A. The Jewish Congregation "B'Nay David Judea" led the effort. The goal was to improve the quality of life on Pico and make the neighborhood more attractive to visitors.

MOUNTAINS

JANUARY 25, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:18) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that a rainstorm dumped a lot of rain in the low-lying Southland areas that day. But, in the mountains it barely made a difference, especially for merchants who were hoping for snow. That day's rain hurt more than helped. It washed away a lot of man made snow. Merchants said a lack of snow meant a lack of customers. Merchants were hopeful they would get snow in March. They called it the "March Miracle."

SATELLITE

JANUARY 27, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:13) TRT 00:21

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that the refurbished minuteman rocket blasted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base the night before. The retooled ballistic missile was carrying about a dozen small satellites built by university students. It was the first launch into orbit using leftover missile parts. Scientists said it would still be several days before they knew for sure if the launch was a complete success.

TROUBLES

JANUARY 31, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:07) TRT 00:59

KCAL9 anchor Jane Velez-Mitchell reported that as usual, in the Southland, a little rain made for slower going and major problems on freeways and surface streets. There were 95% accidents reported between the hours of five and nine that morning. Overnight, one man was killed, another critically injured and a crash on the 55 freeway in Orange. According to the CHP, the victims lost control on the rain-slicked road. The car ran off the side of the freeway and slammed into a large construction tractor on the side of the road. Another accident involving two cars on the 101 freeway near Highland tied up traffic, and resulted in a freeway closure. Neither of the drivers involved was seriously hurt in the crash. Also, rain-slicked streets helped bring a police pursuit to an end as an alleged drunk driver crashed into another car at the intersection of 73rd street and Figueroa. The rain made rocks come tumbling down onto roadways, with at least three different rockslides in the Malibu area adding to dangerous driving conditions.

OCEAN MAPS

FEBRUARY 1, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:11) TRT 00:35

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that one of the biggest obstacle search and rescue teams of Alaska Flight 261 faced was the ocean's depth. It varied considerably in the area flight 261 went down. Off the coast of Port Hueneme and around Anacapa Island, as well as the other Channel Islands, was an area called Fathom curve. Depths in the curve ranged as much as 600 feet. It was

believed wreckage from the Alaska Airlines MD-83 lied at that depth between the two fathom curves in the area of ocean floor known as Point Hueneme Canyon. The Canyon could be as deep as 14-hundred feet. If the impact of the crash or the current moved any of the wreckage into the canyon, it would be very difficult to recover.

ALASKA AVALANCHES

FEBRUARY 2, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:11) TRT 00:22

KCAL9 anchor Bob Donley reported that near blizzard conditions spawned several avalanches along Alaska's highways. A bulldozer operator was killed when he was caught by an avalanche as he was clearing an earlier snowslide. Construction crews used a front loader to reach ten people who were stranded for up to 20-hours in their cars. In a different location, a state police helicopter picked up nine other stranded motorists.

ELEPHANT DEATH

FEBRUARY 7, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:16) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that investigators suspected foul play in the mysterious death of a circus elephant. The elephant named, Kenya was found dead over the weekend at a Riverside, Florida animal compound. It was the same elephant who trampled a woman to death over a week before. Both Kenya's trainers and investigators believed someone could have poisoned the animal for revenge. They were waiting for the results of the animal autopsy.

WATER SUPPLY

FEBRUARY 9, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:04) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that even though it had been a fairly dry winter so far, the water supply for Los Angeles was faring well. The department of Water and Power the day before on the availability of water for our city briefed the L.A City Council. Most of the water came from imported sources such as the Eastern Sierra Nevada. With the past few weeks of heavy snowfall in the mountains, all looked bright for the future. The Department of Water and Power said that since the drought of the early 90's they noticed customers saving an average of 205 in their water use.

MUDSLIDES

FEBRUARY 11, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:09) TRT 00:45

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that crews worked through the day to clean up mud-covered streets in Arcadia due to the rains the night before. Dozens of work crews dug trenches and shoveled mud from streets, driveways and backyards. The night before, rains sent more mud down from the Arcadia Foothills, which were eroded by that past December's Santa Anita fire. The mud

came right up to one home but things could have gotten a lot worse without the crews. The area was under mudslide watch. It saw about an inch of rain the night before. No homes were damaged so far.

STORM DELAYS

FEBRUARY 18, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:07) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that there were problems for air travelers that day. A storm spread snow and sleet across the Midwest and Northwest. Hundreds of flights were cancelled, but not all the travel troubles had to do with what was coming out of the sky.

MOUNTAIN SNOW

FEBRUARY 21, 2000 3:30 P.M. (03:40) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that the winter storm was good news for skiers. Local resorts had as much as a foot and a half of new snow, and more was on the way. A winter storm warning was in effect for areas above four thousand feet, and mountains could get six to 12 more inches of snow overnight. Officials said people driving to the mountains should pack warm clothes, use tire chains on their vehicles, and also carry emergency supplies.

HIGH SURF

FEBRUARY 22, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:16) TRT 00:15

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that local surfers were also enjoying a by-product of our stormy weather, high Surf. Six to ten foot waves were rolling in at Redondo and Manhattan Beaches earlier that day. The surf was expected to remain very high until the following day. Lifeguards warned that only veteran surfers should test those big waves.

PHILIPPINES ERUPTS

MARCH 1, 2000 2:00 P.M. (2:04) TRT 00:29

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that tens of thousands of people were homeless because of recent volcano eruptions in the Philippines, and the Mayon Volcano continued to send out ash and debris. People living within a five-mile danger zone were leaving the area because they said the eruptions were looking more dangerous. The town of Ginubatan was covered in a blank of ash, with cars struggling to get around streets. A team of U.S. military and embassy officials had promised to help the more than 57 thousand people who had fled their homes.

SNOW SURVEY

MARCH 2, 2000 8:00 P.M. (8:12) TRT 00:14

KCAL9 reporter Marti Skold reported that officials surveying the Sierra Nevada snow-pack said the state was on track for a normal water supply that year. The snow pack supplied about 40 percent of California's drinking and farm water. February storms apparently erased worries the state may have had a water shortage.

AVALANCHE

MARCH 2, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:29) TRT 00:33

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported on an amazing rescue in Colorado as a wall of snow came crashing down on a snowmobile. It happened the previous week when three friends went snowmobiling and one fell off his vehicle. Then, as he tried to dig out his stuck vehicle; the victim wound up covered in eight to ten feet of snow as disaster hit. His friends rushed to help him. Amazingly, the victim suffered no injuries. He said he could not even remember what happened.

FRENCH ROCKET

MARCH 2, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:33) TRT 00:24

KCAL9 anchor Jerry Dunphy reported that a couple of men found a giant thimble-shaped object washed up on a Texas beach. It was no seashell. NASA said it was probably the nosecone ejected from a French spacecraft shortly after takeoff from French Guiana in South America. The men who found the nosecone hauled it home thinking they might run it into a hot tub. But first they called NASA just to make sure it was not a UFO.

FIRE INJURIES

MARCH 3, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:33) TRT 00:10

KCAL9 reporter Pat Harvey reported that a Long Beach family was counting its blessing that night. All five family members made it out alive when a fire broke out in their house. A little boy and a firefighter were hurt.

FATAL FIRE

MARCH 3, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:36) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that investigators said careless smoking and packrat conditions were to blame for the death of a man in an apartment fire. Firefighters rescued the man, in his sixties, and put out the fire in about ten minutes. The man suffered second and third degree burns over 80 percent of his body. He was transferred to a San Bernardino County burn center, where he later died.

RIVER CENTER

MARCH 4, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:27) TRT 00:11

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that Los Angeles had a new "jewel" of nature that just opened that day. The River Center may have been a big step in the move to revitalize L.A.'s riverfront areas.

MOZAMBIQUE FLOOD

MARCH 4, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:22) TRT 00:12

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported on overseas where floodwaters were starting to recede in Mozambique. That African country had been devastated by widespread flooding and people were starting to bury the dead.

ASBESTOS SCHOOL

MARCH 4, 2000 9:00 P.M. (9:25) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Leyna Nguyen reported that Chatsworth High School had been ordered closed, after investigators discovered asbestos at the school. About 70 percent of the classrooms reportedly contained asbestos. The 32 hundred students would not be allowed on campus Monday, while investigators determined the extent of the health risk. If no significant problem was found, the school would reopen as soon as the following Tuesday. When asbestos fibers were released into the air, they could be breathed into the lungs and have been shown to cause cancer. The previous year, two other schools in the L.A. Unified School district were closed because of asbestos.

SLIDING HOMES

MARCH 9, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:14) TRT 00:18

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported on the recent onslaught of winter storms that had taken its toll on the Northern California hillside. Residents of five homes in Millbrae had been evacuated. They may never have been able to return. The hill below their homes was slowly sliding away, and geologists said it was just a matter of time before everything tumbled down.

3D MARS

MARCH 10, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:19) TRT 00:24

KCAL anchor Pat Harvey reported on some stunning new maps of Mars put together from data sent from the Mars orbiter. This spinning map depicted the topography of the red planet. The red and white areas were the highest in elevations on the planet. The green and blue areas were the lowest. The

images showed a network of channels, which could have drained large basin or even an early ocean on the planet.

MALIBU QUAKE

MARCH 15, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:14) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported on some shaking in Malibu. A small earthquake measuring three point four hit just after 8:30 that evening. It was centered about two miles north of Point Dume. Cal Tech seismologists said it was a new quake, not an aftershock. No reports of any damage or injuries were made. A few people called the local Sheriff's Department to say they felt a jolt, but were not sure what it was.

SLIDING HOMES

MARCH 16, 2000 10:00 P.M (10:26) TRT 00:24

KCAL9 anchor Pat Harvey reported that officials in Millbrae California used a bulldozer to finish off a job that the forces of nature began. The house slid off its foundation during the previous week's mudslide. The bulldozer demolished what was left of the structure. Officials said if there was any more rain, five other homes would be in danger of sliding down the hill. The company that owned the sliding hill was considering an offer to buy out the residents.

AUTOS/ENVIRONMENT

MARCH 16, 2000 2:00 P.M (2:19) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that an environmental group pointed the finger at Detroit's big three automakers saying they were the worst polluters. A study by the Union of concerned scientists said most of the problem came from poor mileage autos. Isuzu was the worst offender. Daimler-Chrysler was the second. Ford was third and General Motors ranked the fourth. Automakers said the rankings were not a valid measure of environmental performance because the study relied too much on fuel economy.

LAB EXPLOSION

MARCH 17, 2000 3:30 P.M. (3:42) TRT 00:21

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported on an eerie sight at Cal State Fullerton. Hazardous material teams were looking for damage, after an explosion the previous night, in one of the laboratories. No one was hurt, because the room was empty at the time. The school said a mixture of hydrochloric acid and heating oil had to be cleaned off the floor and ceiling. Students were evacuated from the science building, as a precaution.

HEALTH

SALT/FATIGUE

JANUARY 5, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:07) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that a simple, but promising treatment could improve the lives of patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Researchers said ordinary salt could make a difference. There was no known cause for chronic fatigue syndrome, or CRS and no way to test for the condition, which primarily affected women. But, researchers at Johns Hopkins said they found that many CFS patients had symptoms when they were upright for long periods of time or sitting for a long time. Doctors recommended that patients eat as large a quantity of salt as they could manage. Preliminary studies showed that patients would notice an improvement in as little as two weeks.

ARM TRANSPLANT

JANUARY 5, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:17) TRT 00:41

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that a Frenchman had two new arms after a transplant operation. Surgeons spent 17 hours attaching the limbs to the 33-year-old factory worker. The man lost his hands and forearms in an accident four years prior. The surgery involved serious risks. The man would have to take anti-rejection medication to keep his body from destroying the tissue. But, those same drugs would leave him more vulnerable than other diseases. That past September, another surgical team carried out a hand and forearm transplant.

PNEUMONIA

JANUARY 6, 2000 3:30 P.M. (03:37) TRT 00:35

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that everyone was catching the flue, but there were also many that were beginning to come down with pneumonia. Doctors at Granada Hills Community Hospital said pneumonia cases were on the rise, especially in the elderly.

ABORTION STATISTICS

JANUARY 7, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:11) TRT 01:07

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that the number of legal abortions performed in the U.S continued to drop. It was three percent lower in 1997 than in 1996. New figures released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show the national abortion rate is at an all time low – 20 per one thousand women, the lowest rate recorded since 1975. Nearly 90 percent of those pregnancies were terminated during the first trimester. More than half

occurred in the first eight weeks of pregnancy. Since 1990, the birth rate had also declined. For the first time, the CDC report also contained information on the number of non-surgical abortions. Since the mid 90's, some abortion providers had offered women the option of using a combination of two FDA approved drugs to induce an abortion. In 1997 close to three thousand or two percent of all abortions were induced by medications. Researchers believed the figure was actually higher since not all state health departments tracked non-surgical abortions. The FDA was expected to give final approval to another option – the so-called abortion pill, RU-486, which was approved for use in France in 1988. The FDA gave the drug conditional approval 3 years ago. Full approval would come when a manufacturer would agree to produce it.

LOU GEHRIG

JANUARY 10, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:13) TRT 00:26

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that there was encouraging news that day in the fight against Lou Gehrig's Disease. Researchers said they might know what caused it. The disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS affects the motor nerves in the spinal cord and eventually weakens muscles, which leads to paralysis. Patients with the disease usually die within five years from respiratory paralysis. Researchers in Irvine and France said they found a virus in the spinal cords of 15 of 17 patients with the disease. The scientists hoped this discovery would eventually lead to a treatment.

SEAFOOD RECALL

JANUARY 11, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:10) TRT 00:26

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that a New York fish-packing company was recalling thousands of pounds of smoked seafood because they contained life-threatening bacteria. The Food and Drug Administration said the products recently sold by "Royal Baltic" could be contaminated with "Listeria." The affected products- various frozen smoked fish – were sold nationwide, even in California, between June and November of the previous year.

CIRCUMCISION

JANUARY 11, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:08) TRT 00:19

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that circumcising newborns offered very little medical benefit but also caused virtually no harm. Those were the findings of researchers who reviewed the cases of 350-thousand boys born in Washington State. The American Academy of Pediatrics announced, the year before, it would no longer recommend routine circumcision due to questionable benefits from the procedure.

SAFER CIGARETTES

JANUARY 12, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:07) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that one tobacco company was testing a new cigarette that was not any better for your health, but would reduce the number of fires started by cigarettes. A burning cigarette sparked about 25% of fatal house fires. Phillip Morris came up with a cigarette that would put itself out if left unattended. It worked by adding extra layers of paper at certain points, which would allow it to cut off the amount of oxygen getting into the cigarette. In testing, standard cigarettes were almost 18 times more likely to start a fire than the new brands.

RECORD BIRTH

JANUARY 14, 2000 3:30 P.M. (03:34) TRT 00:30

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that a medical miracle occurred that night. A healthy baby boy was born five months after his twin brother was stillborn. He was born by Caesarian. It was a skillful doctor who helped insure his successful arrival. When the first twin arrived stillborn on August third, the obstetrician stitched the mother's womb close to prevent the second baby from arriving prematurely. Doctors said it would be a record for the longest case of arrested labor.

MEDICARE HMO's

JANUARY 15, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:04) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Dave Clark reported that a bad prediction at Medicare was giving HMO's billions of dollars of your money. Federal auditors said Congress over-estimated how medical costs would increase and the government set Medicare payments to HMO's too high. It could cost the taxpayers 34 billion dollars over the next ten-years. Millions of older Americans on Medicare were enrolled in HMO's. A new law before Congress would fix the problem; but it had not yet been approved.

ARTIFICIAL EYE

JANUARY 17, 2000 3:30 P.M. (03:36) TRT 00:47

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that a new high-tech device would help blind people do something they once thought impossible – see. The Dobelle Institute, which made the device, admitted that it was far from perfect. It worked like this: A small device is implanted into the brain. That implant was then connected to a tiny pinhole, helping the patient perceive specks of light and dark. So far, only one man had been tested with the artificial eye. He reportedly found a black hat on a white wall and then put the hat on a mannequin, without any help.

HERBAL SUPPLEMENT

JANUARY 20, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:13) TRT 00:14

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that a leading drug store was doing something to protect its customers against mixing herbal supplements with prescription drugs. CVS Corporation was asking customers to tell their pharmacists what herbal supplements, vitamins and medicines they used. The information would then be entered into a computerized program that crosschecked them for dangerous combinations.

HEART PILL

JANUARY 23, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:15) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that a new drug that hoped to be better than aspirin in preventing heart attacks was not. That was the finding of British researchers who tested the so-called super-aspirin, "Sibrafiban." With a regular aspirin the threat of heart attacks was reduced by about 25%, because aspirin reduced the formation of blood clots. In head-to-head comparisons, however, Sibrafiban was no more effective than aspirin in preventing chest pain, a second heart attack, or even death.

MARCH FOR LIFE

JANUARY 24, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:14) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that in Washington, thousands of anti-abortion activists held their annual "Right to Life," rally. The demonstration came two days after the 27th anniversary of "Roe vs. Wade" - the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. The protest capped a weekend of anti-abortion activities. Abortion was getting more attention that year because of the presidential race.

AIDS/KENYA

JANUARY 26, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:17) TRT 00:26

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that the U.S would give one hundred million dollars in the fight against AIDS worldwide. Most of the money would be spent in Africa, where more than 30-million people were infected with HIV. The death rate was so high; many children at an orphanage in Kenya were brought there after their parents had died. The children got a special visit the day before by Sandra Thurman, Washington's top AIDS official. She hoped the money would help stop AIDS in its track.

BREAST CANCER

JANUARY 27, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:16) TRT 00:25

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that a new aid campaign in the Bay Area was raising more than a few eyebrows. It was sponsored by the Breast Cancer Fund. Ads appeared on the Internet and at bus stations. They featured scantily clad women with mastectomy scars. A former aide to Dianne Feinstein created the Breast Cancer Fund in 1992. The founder Andrea Martin said the ads were designed to create controversy. She thought it would bring attention to the medical problem. Others said she was just exploiting women's bodies.

BLOOD DONORS

JANUARY 31, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:07) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that the American Red Cross was asking Congressional leaders to save lives by donating blood. Lawmakers rolled up their sleeves that day to help ease a severe blood shortage. The Congressional Blood drive soon turned into a competition. House members out-donated the Senate while Republicans gave more blood than Democrats did. Some lawmakers pointed to the serious need for everyone to donate. Bad winter weather and the flu season had brought donations down by 12-thousand a day.

HIV

FEBRUARY 2, 2000 8:00 P.M. (08:10) TRT 00:37

KCAL9 anchor Sylvia Lopez reported that there was disturbing news out of Canada, where AIDS researchers had documented the first case of an HIV positive patient who was re-infected with a second strain of the virus. AIDS researchers had believed for some time that HIV positive people could be re-infected with a new strain of the virus. A case out of an Ottawa Hospital appeared to prove that theory. A patient there who was already HIV positive was re-infected after a sexual relationship with another HIV positive person. Doctors made the discovery after the patient took a turn for the worse, with no apparent explanation. The case underscored how important it was for all HIV positive people to practice safe sex, even if their partner is also carrying the virus.

OPTIMISM

FEBRUARY 7, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:11) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Terri Merryman reported that MAYO Clinic researchers found that pessimistic people had a 19 percent increased risk of dying before the end of their expected life span. Patients in the thirty-year study filled out psychology tests that measured optimism and pessimism. Researchers said avoiding pessimism was the key to a long and healthy life. Researchers said the findings confirmed their belief that mind and body were closely linked.

ADNRO EFFECTS

FEBRUARY 9, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:07) TRT 00:38

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that a new study on a hormone supplement popular with athletes showed some alarming effects. Researchers said large quantities of Andro-Steer die-own, or "Andro," could significantly raise testosterone levels in men. Even moderate quantities of Andro would raise the female hormones in men. Researchers would not comment on the long-term effects of Andro because their seven-day study was too short. However, high estrogen levels in men could cause a variety of serious problems. Doctors feared Andro could also affect adolescents who were still growing by causing early puberty and stunted growth.

BLIND PREVENTION

FEBRUARY 15, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:18) TRT 00:38

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that there was a new study, which indicated the best way to prevent age-related blindness, was proper nutrition. 13-million Americans were affected by age related Macular Degeneration or AMD. It was the leading cause of blindness. Researchers reporting in the New England Journal of Medicine said an anti-oxidant named Lu-Teen could reduce the risk. The journal article also discussed improved surgical treatments for AMD and advances in gene therapy for the disease.

ANTHRAX

FEBRUARY 17, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:14) TRT 00:32

KCAL9 anchor Kerry Kilbride reported that it was a battle that night between Congress and the Pentagon over "Anthrax." Pentagon officials had mandated that all U.S military personnel are vaccinated against the deadly chemical agent. A House subcommittee wanted the mandatory program stopped. The subcommittee contended the vaccine might be making some servicemen and women sick; and might not provide them with enough protection against weapons grade Anthrax. The vaccine was originally developed in the 1950's. The Pentagon refused to suspend the program calling it a must have protection for troops.

GOOD CHOCOLATE

FEBRUARY 18, 2000 9:00 P.M. (09:38) TRT 00:20

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that there was great news for chocolate lovers. It could very well turn out to be a fountain of youth. U.C Davis researchers discovered that moderate amounts of chocolate could decrease the risk for heart disease. They also found that blood level antioxidants increased

when subjects were given M&M's. Antioxidants help protect the body from age related diseases.

AIDS AND KIDS

FEBRUARY 21, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:04) TRT 00:40

KCAL9 anchor Dave Gonzales reported that the number of AIDS cases was going down in the country, but there was one group of Americans giving researchers a reason to worry. AIDS experts said too many teenagers, especially girls, still didn't think they were at risk. Part of that attitude was apparently based on the belief that only "Gays" were likely to get AIDS. From July 1998 to June 1999, the Centers for Disease Control reported nearly 500 new cases of HIV among teenage girls. 42% of them were infected through heterosexual contact. Experts feared those numbers could actually be much greater because many adults who had AIDS, could have acquired the virus as teenagers could.

FLU DRUG

FEBRUARY 22, 2000 2:00 P.M. (02:14) TRT 00:33

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MARCH 1, 2000 12:00 P.M. (12:42) TRT 00:23

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MALE MENOPAUSE

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COURIC COLON

MARCH 6, 2000 10:00 P.M. (10:25) TRT 00:22

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BLOOD TYPES

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